

REMARKS

Claims 1, 3, 5, 7, and 10 are pending for examination with claims 1, 3, 5, and 7 being independent. In response to the Office Action mailed August 20, 2008, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration. The application is believed to be in condition for allowance.

Double Patenting

Claims 1, 3, 5, and 7 have been rejected on the ground of nonstatutory obviousness-type double patenting as being unpatentable over Claims 3, 4, 10, 11, 16, 19, 23, and 24 of U.S. Patent No. 6,359,879 B1 in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,591,303. Without acquiescing to the rejection, but in order to expedite allowance, a Terminal Disclaimer is being filed concurrently with this Reply to disclaim any terminal part of a patent that may issue from the Application that extends beyond the expiration of U.S. Patent No. 6,359,879 B1. Accordingly, the double patenting rejection of Claims 1, 3, 5, and 7 is believed to be overcome.

Dependent Claim 10 depends directly from independent Claim 5 and therefore includes all of the limitations of independent Claim 5. Consequently, dependent Claim 10 is also allowable.

Disclosure Statement

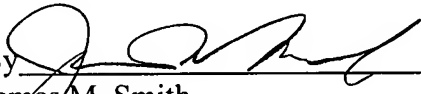
A Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement (SIDS) is being filed concurrently herewith. Entry of the SIDS is respectfully requested.

CONCLUSION

In view of the above amendments and remarks, it is believed that all claims are in condition for allowance, and it is respectfully requested that the application be passed to issue. If the Examiner feels that a telephone conference would expedite prosecution of this case, the Examiner is invited to call the undersigned.

Respectfully submitted,

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